

the person's position, e.g., party protestant or party in support, regarding the proposed transaction; specific reasons why approval would or would not be in the public interest; and a request for oral hearing if one is desired. Additionally, interested persons who do not intend to participate formally in a proceeding but who desire to comment, may file statements and information as they may desire, subject to the filing and service requirements specified here. Persons submitting written comments to the Commission shall, at the same time, serve copies of these written comments upon the applicants, the Secretary of Transportation and the Attorney General.

Notice of the acceptance of the petition for exemption filed pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 10505 on April 17, 1979, in this proceeding (Finance Docket No. 29022F, Southwest Forest Industries, Inc., and SWF Gulf Coast, Inc.—Control—The Atlanta & Saint Andrews Bay Railway Company) has been published separately in this edition of the **Federal Register**.

H. G. Homme, Jr.,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 79-15992 Filed 5-21-79; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7035-01-M

[Docket No. AB-105 (Sub-No. 2F)]

**Western Pacific Railroad Co.—
Discontinuance of Service—Within
Counties of Alameda and San
Francisco, CA.; Findings**

Notice is hereby given pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 10903 (formerly Section 1a of the Interstate Commerce Act) that by a Certificate and Decision decided May 7, 1979, a finding, which is administratively final, was made by the Commission, Review Board Number 5, stating that, subject to the conditions for the protection of railway employees prescribed by the Commission in AB-36 (Sub-No. 2), *Oregon Short Line R. Co.—Abandonment Goshen* —I.C.C.

—decided February 9, 1979, provided, however, that applicant may not exercise the authority granted herein until approval of the pending directly related applications in Finance Docket Nos. 28975F and 28977F and institution of operation thereunder, the present and future public convenience and necessity permit the discontinuance of service of the Western Pacific Railroad Company of its line of railroad known as its trans-bay car ferry operation extending from railroad milepost 3.487, near Oakland, to milepost 0, at its 25th Street yard in San Francisco, and to its connection with the San Francisco Belt Railway at Pier 43½

in San Francisco, and to its connection with Alameda Belt Line at Alameda, a distance of approximately 4.2 miles (to milepost 0) and 5.1 miles (to Pier 43½) and 4.8 miles (to Alameda Belt Line), respectively, all of which lines are upon the waters of San Francisco Bay via applicant's car ferry the M.V. Las Plumas and within the Counties of Alameda and San Francisco, CA. Applicant also seeks, as part of said discontinuance of service, authority to physically abandon its car ferry the M.V. Las Plumas. A certificate of public convenience and necessity permitting discontinuance of service was issued to the Western Pacific Railroad Company. Since no investigation was instituted, the requirement § 1121.38(a) of the Regulations that publication of notice of abandonment decisions in the **Federal Register** be made only after such a decision becomes administratively final was waived.

Upon receipt by the carrier of an actual offer of financial assistance, the carrier shall make available to the offeror the records, accounts, appraisals, working papers, and other documents used in preparing Exhibit I (§ 1121.45 of the Regulations). Such documents shall be made available during regular business hours at a time and place mutually agreeable to the parties.

The offer must be filed and served no later than June 6, 1979. The offer, as filed, shall contain information required pursuant to § 1121.38(b)(2) and (3) of the Regulations. If no such offer is received, the certificate of public convenience and necessity authorizing abandonment shall become effective July 6, 1979.

H. G. HOMME, JR.,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 79-15988 Filed 5-21-79; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7035-01-M

Sunshine Act Meetings

Federal Register

Vol. 44, No. 100

Tuesday, May 22, 1979

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains notices of meetings published under the "Government in the Sunshine Act" (Pub. L. 94-409) 5 U.S.C. 552b(e)(3).

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1

May 16, 1979.

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION.

TIME AND DATE: 10 A.M., MAY 23, 1979.

PLACE: 825 North Capitol St., N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, Hearing Room A.

STATUS: Open.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: Agenda.

Note.—Items listed on the agenda may be deleted without further notice.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE

INFORMATION: Kenneth F. Plumb, Secretary, Telephone (202) 275-4166.

This is a list of matters to be considered by the Commission. It does not include a listing of all papers relevant to the items on the agenda. However, all public documents may be examined in the Office of Public Information.

Power Agenda—293rd Meeting, May 23, 1979, Regular Meeting (10 a.m.)

CAP-1. Docket Nos. ER79-282, ER79-301, ER79-302, ER79-303, ER79-304 and ER79-305, Southern California Edison Co.

CAP-2. Docket No. ER79-291, Illinois Power Co. and Central Illinois Light Co.

CAP-3. Docket No. ER79-306, Public Service Co. of Oklahoma.

CAP-4. Docket No. ER79-288, Indiana & Michigan Electric Co.

CAP-5. Docket No. ER79-284, Pennsylvania-New Jersey-Maryland Interconnection.

CAP-6. Docket No. ER79-285, Miami Power Corp.

CAP-7. Docket No. EL78-29, Village of Penn Yan, New York.

Gas Agenda—293rd Meeting, May 23, 1979, Regular Meeting

CAG-1. Docket Nos. RP72-155 and RP78-18 (PGA 79-1A and AP79-1A), El Paso Natural Gas Co.

CAG-2. Docket Nos. RP75-30, PP74-20 and RP74-83, United Gas Pipe Line Co.

CAG-3. Docket No. RP72-122 (PGA 78-3), Colorado Interstate Gas Co.

CAG-4. Docket No. RP74-100 (PGA Nos. 78-8 and 79-3), National Fuel Gas Corp.

CAG-5. Docket No. RP73-65 (PGA 78-2), Columbia Gas Transmission Corp.

CAG-6. Docket No. CI77-641, Arkansas Louisiana Gas Company v. Dyco Petroleum Corporation, et al.

CAG-7. Docket Nos. CS66-12, et al., Kewanee Oil Co., et al.

CAG-8. Docket Nos. CI71-595, et al., Tenneco Oil Co., et al.

CAG-9. Docket Nos. CI68-106, et al., Mobil Oil Corp., et al.

CAG-10. Docket Nos. CI78-180, CI78-181 and CI78-182, Texaco Inc.

CAG-11. Docket No. CI76-338, Ashland Exploration, Inc. Docket No. CI66-962, Pelican Petroleum Co., Inc., et al.

CAG-12. Docket No. CP77-421, et al., Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Corp.

CAG-13. Docket No. CP70-86, Cities of Licking and Salem, Mo., Applicants Cities Service Gas Co., Respondent.

CAG-14. Docket No. CP78-437,

Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Corp.

CAG-15. Docket No. CP77-263, Northwest Pipeline Co.

CAG-16. Docket No. CP79-213, Northern Natural Gas Co.

CAG-17. Docket No. CP79-229,

Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Corp.

CAG-18. Docket No. CP79-132, Tennessee Gas Pipeline Co., a Division of Tenneco Inc., and Consolidated Gas Supply Corp.

CAG-19. Docket Nos. CP78-520 and CP79-233, El Paso Natural Gas Co. Docket No.

CP79-230, Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Corp.

CAG-20. Docket No. CP78-512, Colorado Interstate Gas Co.

Power Agenda—293rd Meeting, May 23, 1979, Regular Meeting

I. Electric Rate Matters

ER-1. Docket Nos. ER79-267 and ER79-268, Union Electric Co.

ER-2. Docket No. ER79-283, Kansas Power & Light Co.

ER-3. Docket No. E-9408, American Electric Power Service Corp.

ER-4. Docket No. E-7734, Mid-Continent Power Pool Agreement.

Miscellaneous Agenda, 293rd Meeting, May 23, 1979, Regular Meeting

M-1. Docket No. RM79-6, Procedures governing the Collection and Reporting of Information Associated with the Cost of Providing Electric Service.

M-2. Docket No. RM79- , Calculation of the Working Cash Component of Working Capital Allowance for Electric Utilities.

M-3. Reserved.

M-4. Reserved.

M-5. Docket No. R-424, Accounting for Premium, Discount and Expense of Issue,

Gains and Losses on Refunding and Reacquisition of Long-Term Debt, and Interperiod Allocation of Income Taxes. Docket No. R-446, Amendments to the Uniform Systems of Accounts for Classes A, B, and C of Public Utilities and Licensees and Natural Gas Companies; Deferred Income Taxes.

M-6. Docket No. RM79-31, Amendments to the Commission's Regulations Relating to Independent Producer Filing Requirements.

M-7. Docket No. RM79- , Rulemaking Amending Section 274.104 of the Commission's Regulations.

M-8. Docket No. RM79- , Final Regulations for Subparts A, B and D of Part 284; Final Regulations for Emergency Natural Gas Transaction, to be Included as Subpart E of Part 284; and Amendments to Subpart C of Part 284.

Gas Agenda—293rd Meeting, May 23, 1979, Regular Meeting

I. Pipeline Rate Matters

RP-1. Docket No. RP79-70, Oklahoma Natural Gas Gathering Corp.

RP-2. Docket No. RP79-66, Western Gas Interstate Co.

RP-3. Docket No. RP73-64 (PGA No. 79-1a) (DCA No. 79-1a), Southern Natural Gas Co.

RP-4. Docket Nos. RP74-61 (PGA 78-2) and RP76-10 (PGA 78-2), Arkansas-Louisiana Gas Co.

II. Producer Matters

CI-1. Docket Nos. CI73-150, et al., Sun Oil Co., et al.

III. Pipeline Certificate Matters

CP-1. Docket No. RP-79-79, Cities Service Gas Co.

CP-2. Docket No. TC79-127, Columbia Gas Transmission Corp.

CP-3. Docket No. CP77-287, Mid-Continent Gas Co. and Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Corp.

CP-4. Docket No. CP77-378 (Remand), Northwest Pipeline Corp.

CP-5. Docket No. CP79-133, ONG Western, Inc.

Kenneth F. Plumb,
Secretary.

[S-1015-79 Filed 5-16-79; 9:41 am]

BILLING CODE 6740-02-M

2

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION.

"FEDERAL REGISTER" CITATION OF PREVIOUS ANNOUNCEMENT: 44 FR 28147, May 14, 1979.

PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED TIME AND DATE OF MEETING: 10 a.m., May 16, 1979.

CHANGE IN MEETING: The following item has been added:

Item No., Docket No., and Company

M-10. RM79-43, Amendments to Subpart A of Part 157 of the Regulations Implementing the Natural Gas Act.

Kenneth F. Plumb,

Secretary.

(S-1017-79 Filed 5-18-79; 1:34 pm)

BILLING CODE: 6740-02-M

3

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM.

TIME AND DATE: 11 a.m., Friday, May 25, 1979.

PLACE: 20th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, D.C. 20551.

STATUS: Closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

1. Personnel actions (appointments, promotions, assignments, reassignments, and salary actions) involving individual Federal Reserve System employees.

2. Any agenda items carried forward from a previously announced meeting.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE

INFORMATION: Mr. Joseph R. Coyne, Assistant to the Board; (202) 452-3204. Griffith L. Garwood, Deputy Secretary of the Board.

Date: May 17, 1979.

(S-1016-79 Filed 5-18-79; 9:41 am)

BILLING CODE 6210-01-M

4

NATIONAL RAILROAD PASSENGER CORPORATION.

In accordance with Rule 4a. of Appendix A of the Bylaws of the National Railroad Passenger Corporation, notice is given that the Board of Directors will meet on May 30, 1979.

A. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 30, 1979, in the National Guard Association Building, 3rd Floor, 1 Massachusetts Avenue, Northwest, Washington, D.C., beginning at 9:30 a.m.

B. The meeting will be open to the public at 10:30 a.m. beginning with agenda item No. 3, as described below.

C. The agenda items to be discussed at the meeting follow.

Agenda—National Railroad Passenger Corporation

Meeting of the Board of Directors—May 30, 1979

Closed session (9:30)

1. Internal Personnel Matters.

2. Litigation Matters.

Open session (10:30)

3. Approval of minutes of regular meeting of April 25, 1979.

4. Commitment approval requests:
79-72 Computer Equipment Upgrade and Sale.

79-76 Purchase of Communications and Signal Maintenance Vehicles.

77-193-S1 Supplemental Funding for B&P Tunnel Improvements.

79-78 Conversion and Modification of 36 Hi-level Transition Coaches.

78-45-S1 Supplemental Funding to Rebuild and Modify FL-9 Locomotives.

78-83-S1 Supplemental Funding for Efficiency Test Program for Turbine Engines.

77-265-S4 Supplemental Funding for 34-car Metroliner Overhaul and Upgrade Program.

5. Approval of Canadian Liquor License.

6. Approval of Consulting Contract for Work Measurement Program, Brighton Park.

7. Board Committee Reports: Adult, equipment, Northeast Corridor Improvement Project, Organization and Compensation, and Planning and Finance.

8. President's Report.

9. New Business.

10. Adjournment.

D. Inquiries regarding the information required to be made available pursuant to Appendix A of the Corporation's Bylaws should be directed to the Assistant Corporate Secretary at (202) 383-3971.

Dated: May 18, 1979.

T. Page Sharp,

Assistant Corporate Secretary.

(S-1018-79 Filed 5-18-79; 2:08 pm)

Environmental Protection Agency

Tuesday
May 22, 1979

Part II

Interagency Regulatory Liasion Group

Activities Report; Protection of Public
Health and Environment

INTERAGENCY REGULATORY LIAISON GROUP

Protection of Public Health and Environment; Activities Report

May 1979.

Activities Report

I. Background

On September 26, 1977 the heads of the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Food and Drug Administration, and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration signed an agreement to increase ongoing cooperation to improve protection of the public health and the environment. This cooperative effort was named the Interagency Regulatory Liaison Group (IRLG). Intention to form such a group was announced on August 2, 1977, and the agreement was published in the *Federal Register* on October 11, 1977 (42 FR 54856). In January 1979 the Food Safety and Quality Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture joined the IRLG as a fifth member.

Emphasis was placed on sharing information, avoiding duplication of effort and developing consistent regulatory policies. Initially, eight specific areas were identified for concentrated cooperative activities. These were: (1) Compliance and enforcement, (2) education and communications, (3) epidemiology, (4) information exchange, (5) regulatory development, (6) research planning, (7) risk assessment and (8) testing standards and guidelines. Work groups made up of representatives from each of the agencies were established to identify and address problems of mutual concern in each of the areas. Notice of specific work plans and public meetings held March 2-6, 1978, was published in the *Federal Register* on February 17, 1978 (43 FR 7174). Work plans were also developed in each of ten regions across the country specifying cooperative arrangements among the four agencies and their field operations.

II. Progress

Since its inception, the IRLG has moved steadily toward its stated goals. A listing of some major activities follows:

A. Regulatory Development. A working compendium listing information and regulatory plans for 24 chemicals or substances has been produced. This compendium, entitled "Hazardous Substances," will be updated periodically and serve as a guide for

coordinated development of regulations of chemicals of concern to two or more of the IRLG agencies. It also serves to inform the public of actions being taken on these substances.

B. Compliance and Enforcement. 1. Regional emergency response systems have been coordinated. In addition, a plan is being developed to integrate these systems into the National Contingency Plan which provides for a coordinated Federal response to protect the public and the environment from damaging effects or oil and hazardous substance discharges and fosters Federal, state and local cooperation.

2. A multi-agency compliance orientation training program has been piloted. This is designed to provide information about IRLG agency compliance authorities and to provide basic information for the widespread implementation of referral inspections. This will result in improved protection and more efficient use of resources on a national scale.

C. Science—1. Guidelines. Guidelines through agency review and ready for public comment have been developed for four acute toxicity tests and one teratogenicity test in the health effects area. Twelve additional health effects guidelines and eight guidelines for environmental effects are at various stages of development, bringing to 26 the number of testing guidelines under development by the IRLG. A set of criteria for documenting epidemiological studies has also been completed and is undergoing agency review. The goal is to have these guidelines and those still to be developed provide a basis for testing which will result in data that are acceptable to all IRLG agencies.

2. **Risk Assessment.** IRLG agency scientists in conjunction with staff members from the NCI and NIEHS have developed a document describing the scientific concepts and methods currently in use to identify and evaluate substances that may pose a risk of cancer to humans. It is entitled, "Scientific Bases for Identifying Potential Carcinogens and Estimating Their Risks" and was released to the public in February 1979.

3. **Research.** (a) Three inventories dealing with research supported by the IRLG agencies and NCI, NIEHS and NIOSH have been completed. The first was concerned with all toxics research, the second specifically with toxicology, and the third with metals. Drafts are being revised, but the data show that there is very little duplication. They also provide information for identifying research gaps which need to be filled.

(b) IRLG with assistance from staff members of DOD, NCI, NIOSH and NIEHS developed a rationale and long range general plan for dealing with problems of chronic degenerative diseases, environmental cancer, reproductive toxicity, neurotoxicity and behavior, mutagenic diseases, and immunologic diseases. The document, entitled "Preventive Health and the Environmental Sciences," sets out a proposal for a national effort in toxicology research related to human health.

(c) FDA and EPA established a joint neurotoxicology research program at EPA laboratories in North Carolina. This permits a better utilization of scarce resources for the conduct of research essential to the missions of IRLG agencies.

(d) FDA's "Good Laboratory Practices" regulations which set new, more stringent standards for testing of toxic substances have been adopted by IRLG agencies. Their widespread use will improve the quality of laboratory procedures and the quality of data.

(e) Through the Smithsonian Science Information Exchange, a computerized system for identification of epidemiology programs is in place.

D. Information and Data. 1. A feasibility study has been completed and planning started on a regulated chemicals directory. The computerized directory will contain information on standards which have been proposed or promulgated, existing laws, regulations, court decisions and state regulations concerning chemical substances. It will be accessible to the private sector as well as various Federal, state and local government agencies.

2. A study is being supported to determine the feasibility of developing common codes for linking data files using Chemical Abstract System and product codes, production sites and other information generally available. A linking system will expand the data base by building on those already in existence and routinely in use.

3. Support is being provided for a JOURNALINK Union List of Serials which is a listing of relevant joint holdings of IRLG agencies' libraries and the libraries of the Department of Interior, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the National Bureau of Standards and the U.S. Patent Office.

E. Education. 1. A Generic Safety and Health Curriculum Guide for schools is under development and should be ready for piloting within a year. Its use will make information concerning hazardous

substances available on a widespread basis to the school-age population.

2. A draft of a Joint Annotated Bibliography on Toxic Substances has been completed. It provides guidance to consumers on obtaining information from IRLG agencies about specific substances.

3. A pamphlet entitled "Working Together" was completed in March 1979. Its purpose is to introduce the IRLG to the general public.

F. *Regional Activities.* Among the most significant accomplishments are those occurring in the field. Field staffs are cooperating in the following ways: (a) inspection referrals, whereby an inspector from one agency refers possible violations of another agency's regulations to that agency, (b) improved consumer information, (c) emergency response systems, (d) cross training of personnel, (e) sharing office facilities and equipment, (f) sharing laboratory facilities and expertise, (g) holding joint seminars, and (h) coordinating with state agencies. Regional public forums have been held in three regions. This cooperation is improving our use of resources nationwide and enabling us to better meet our public health responsibilities.

In addition, at headquarters and in all regions cooperative actions dealing with specific problems are becoming the rule rather than the exception.

III. Continuing Activities

The original intention was to avoid establishing permanent, self-perpetuating work groups and to have the IRLG concept of coordination among the agencies be the rule rather than the exception. In keeping with this concept, four of the eight work groups are in the process of completing their tasks. They are Education and Communications, Research Planning, Compliance and Enforcement and Risk Assessment. They will cease to function as work groups, but future activities in these areas will be carried out by staff members whose regular responsibilities encompass those areas or by special task groups. Work group activities which will continue are:

A. *Epidemiology.* Work will continue on the goals stated in the initial plan. As noted above, a computerized system for identification of epidemiology programs has been put into effect through the Smithsonian Science Information Exchange. Several projects are nearing completion. The first, guidelines for epidemiological studies, should be available for public comment in May and in final form by November or December 1979. The second, a document on identification of existing (legal)

authorities for requiring retention, collection, collation, and disclosure of data pertinent to human disease is complete and should be final by August 1979. Third, a subcommittee is identifying epidemiology data bases within and outside of the IRLG agencies and plans to have a catalogue of machine readable bases available in September 1979. They are working with other Federal agencies in an effort to link national data systems.

Plans to identify epidemiology resource personnel became a part of a more comprehensive IRLG effort to develop a "skills inventory" for the identification of all resource personnel. The work group is also coordinating its planned determination of needs for additional agreements and authorities for epidemiological studies with other Federal efforts dealing with the same issues.

A goal which has been delayed is their plan to conduct in depth evaluations of design, methods of analysis and conclusions of selected published studies and of research in the areas of demographic, confounding, and study variables. These tasks have not been undertaken yet because the work group felt additional resources are needed to provide a thorough and complete study.

B. *Information Exchange.* The work group will continue toward completion of the tasks identified in their initial plan. As noted above, several feasibility studies have been completed. The first was for preparation of a regulated chemicals industry directory, and work on producing the directory has been initiated. The second, an inventory of candidate systems in which common codes could be used to link data files, is finished; and a definition of user's needs has been started. Forms to provide a skills inventory to identify personnel resources within each agency have been developed and will be distributed among the agencies as soon as they are approved. Development of a policy for sharing and handling confidential information is also underway.

C. *Regulatory Development.* The work group will continue to coordinate the regulation of hazardous substances on which two or more of the IRLG agencies are working. It will also continue to implement an interagency alert system designed to inform the other IRLG agencies of upcoming regulatory action. So far the list of hazardous substances for regulatory development coordination includes acrylonitrile, arsenic, asbestos, benzene, beryllium, cadmium, chloroform and related solvents, chlorofluorocarbons, chromates, coke oven emissions, dibromochloropropane

(DBCP), diethylstilbestrol (DES), ethylene dibromide (EDB), ethylene oxide (ETO) and its residues, lead, mercury and mercury compounds, nitrosamines, ozone, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB's), radiation, sulfur dioxide, vinyl chloride, polyvinyl chloride, waste disposal on agricultural land, formaldehyde and benzidine-type dyes. An updated compendium of regulatory development work plans covering the most of these substances is scheduled for publication in late May.

D. *Task Group on Education.* Although most responsibilities of the Education and Communications Work Group have been turned over to Counterpart Group of Public Information Officers, several tasks relating to education remain to be completed. This will be done by a Task Group on Education. The projects are: (a) The Generic Health and Safety Education Curriculum Activities Guides for Teachers of Middle and Senior High Grades; (b) the Joint Annotated Bibliography on Toxic Substances; and (c) an in-house analysis of the original four IRLG agencies' statutes relating to labeling of toxic substances which will be used to recommend a unified, coordinated labeling strategy for the IRLG agencies.

E. *Testing Standards and Guidelines.* The Testing Standards and Guidelines Work Group will continue to standardize the tests listed in the original work plan. The following tests should be ready for publication for public comment within a month: Eye Irritation, Acute Dermal, Acute Inhalation, Acute Oral, Teratogenicity, and Vapor Pressure. Tests nearly ready for agency review which should be into the agencies within four to six weeks include: Subchronic Ingestion, Subchronic Dermal, Reproduction, Primary Skin Irritation, Octanol/Water Partitioning Coefficient, Water Solubility, Hydrolysis, Daphnia—acute life cycle toxicity tests, Biodegradation—four screening procedures, and Adsorption/Desorption. Guidelines that should be ready for agency review within four to five months are Subchronic Inhalation, Chronic Toxicity, Perinatal, Combined Chronic—Carcinogenicity, Carcinogenicity, Mutagenicity, Metabolism, and Multigeneration Reproduction.

F. *Regional Activities.* The regional offices of the IRLG agencies are in the process of evaluating their first year of progress and developing revised work plans. These revised work plans will include activities in the following areas: Information exchange, internal

management and training, laboratories, compliance and enforcement, and external relations. Some of the IRLG activities receiving particular emphasis within the regional offices will include public information and education; referral inspection training and implementation; sharing of laboratory facilities, equipment, methods and techniques; and emergency response.

G. Counterpart Groups. Each counterpart group will usually include from each agency one senior official having the same responsibilities within the agency as those designated for the counterpart group. For most activities, each group will decide how leadership responsibilities will be shared. However, in some cases the Principals may assign lead responsibilities. An IRLG Surrogate who is designated as the Surrogate Liaison will work with each group.

Counterpart groups will have continuing responsibilities and will, as the need arises, be asked by the Principals to take on specific projects. In addition, they are expected to initiate cooperative efforts on their own. A counterpart group may also establish subgroups or task forces to carry out its responsibilities.

Designated counterpart groups and the Surrogate Liaisons are listed below. Their responsibilities for interagency coordination include, but are not limited to, the following:

General Counsels

1. Maintain close communications on proposed legislation of mutual interest.
2. Maintain close communications on judicial events of mutual interest.
3. Try to anticipate legal issues relating to other IRLG cooperative activities and ensure that they are resolved expeditiously.

Specific Projects:

- a. Resolve specific issues referred to the General Counsels by the Regulatory Development Work Group and the Testing Standards & Guidelines Work Group.
- b. Resolve issues regarding the coordination of compliance and enforcement which have been referred to the General Counsels by the Compliance and Enforcement Work Group.
- c. Resolve issues regarding the exchange of information among the agencies which have been referred to General Counsels by the Information Exchange Work Group.

Surrogate Liaison: Richard A. Heller (CPSC)

Congressional Affairs

1. Coordinate transmittal of IRLG and related reports to Congress.
2. Coordinate, as appropriate, agency presentations and testimony before Congress.

3. Maintain close communications on Congressional issues of interest.

Specific Projects:

Prepare joint briefing for new members of Congress.

Surrogate Liaison: John Wessel (FDA)

Public Information Officers

1. Prepare press releases as IRLG projects are completed.
2. Develop and disseminate IRLG informational materials on issues of common interest to IRLG agencies.
3. Share in dissemination of information materials prepared by different agencies which are of mutual interest.
4. Support IRLG public information cooperation in regional offices.

Specific Projects:

Prepare a film or filmscript for use by the regional offices to orientate agency employees regarding the IRLG and its activities.

Surrogate Liaison: Edwin H. Clark, II (EPA)

Budget Officers

1. Promote expeditious allocation and handling of IRLG budget.
2. Coordinate preparation of agency budgets to ensure that they are generally consistent and mutually supportive.
3. Ensure that IRLG activities are included in each agency's ZBB budgeting process.

Surrogate Liaison: Thomas Grumbly (FSQS)

Research Planning Officers

1. Coordinate research planning and budgeting operations of the IRLG agencies.
2. Arrange for research budget submissions and subsequent testimony to be coordinated and mutually supportive.
3. Promote increased coordination between IRLG and other agencies involved in toxics research.
4. Ensure that research projects identified by the Regulatory Development Work Group are given full consideration in preparing the research budgets of the separate agencies.

Specific Projects:

- a. Establish a task force to prepare specific recommendations concerning the implementation of the research coordination efforts recommended by

the Research Planning Work Group in their Toxicology and Metals Reports.

- b. Evaluate other possible initiatives recommended by the Research Planning Work Group and establish task forces to study and make recommendations on these initiatives as appropriate.

- c. Develop recommendations to improve the usefulness of the FY 1981 Toxics Research ZBB exercise.

- d. Consider appropriate follow-up on the "Preventive Health and the Environmental Sciences" report of November 1978.

Surrogate Liaison: Allen Heim (FDA)

Senior Economists

1. In coordination with the Regulatory Development Work Group, arrange for joint economic impact analyses whenever feasible.

2. Promote exchange of relevant economic information and economic analysis tools among agencies.

3. Arrange for development of common data bases and methods for carrying out economic analyses.

Specific Projects:

- a. Establish a special task force to evaluate feasibility of and make recommendations on the establishment of common data bases relevant to economic analyses of toxic substances regulations.

- b. Establish a special task force to evaluate feasibility of and make recommendations on the cooperative (or joint) development of analytical methodologies and tools for economic analyses.

- c. In cooperation with the IRLG Surrogates, establish a special task force to develop a cooperative program for developing methodologies, analytical tools and carrying out analyses of the benefits of toxic substances regulations.

- d. Coordinate activities with Regulatory Council.

Surrogate Liaison: Edwin H. Clark, II (EPA)

Compliance and Enforcement Officers

1. Ensure continued cooperation among the agencies in compliance and enforcement activities in the field and at headquarters.

2. Develop ways to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of agency compliance laboratory operations.

3. Assist the field offices in coordinating their compliance and enforcement activities.

Specific Projects:

- a. Develop a plan for integrating agency regional emergency response systems with the National Contingency

Plan for emergencies related to oil and hazardous substances discharges.

b. Implement a compliance orientation training program to prepare compliance personnel for referral inspections.

c. Develop and implement a referral inspection program.

d. Evaluate feasibility of cross-over inspections.

e. Develop and implement a joint inspection program.

f. Plan and implement industry seminars on compliance issues.

g. Develop a computerized inventory of facilities and equipment in agency laboratories.

h. Develop handling procedures to facilitate referral of samples to other agency laboratories.

i. Develop a MOU addressing procedures for instituting, where appropriate, cooperative civil or criminal enforcement actions.

Surrogate Liaison: James Pierce (OSHA) and Claire Mattasoni (EPA)

FOI Officers

Ensure, in cooperation with the IRLG surrogates, accurate responses from the IRLG agencies on FOI requests.

Surrogate Liaison: Ray Murtishaw (FSQS)

Personnel Officers

Specific Projects:

a. Resolve personnel and union problems involved in inspection referrals and exchange of personnel among IRLG agencies.

b. Develop ways to exchange, on a timely basis, job announcements for professional positions in the IRLG agencies.

c. Coordinate the referral of highly qualified professional job applicants to other IRLG agencies for consideration.

d. Follow-up on the establishment of position standards for toxicologists.

Surrogate Liaison: Ray Murtishaw, FSQS

Other Activities

The following staff groups are encouraged to develop closer working arrangements among the IRLG agencies and to recommend areas of opportunity for increased interagency cooperation in their areas of responsibility:

Administrative Officers

Planning and Evaluation Officers

Environmental Assessment Officers

Correspondence Referral

Contract Officers

Good Laboratory Practices

For further information on activities of the IRLG, contact Ms. Susan Guenette, Executive Assistant, IRLG, Room 509,

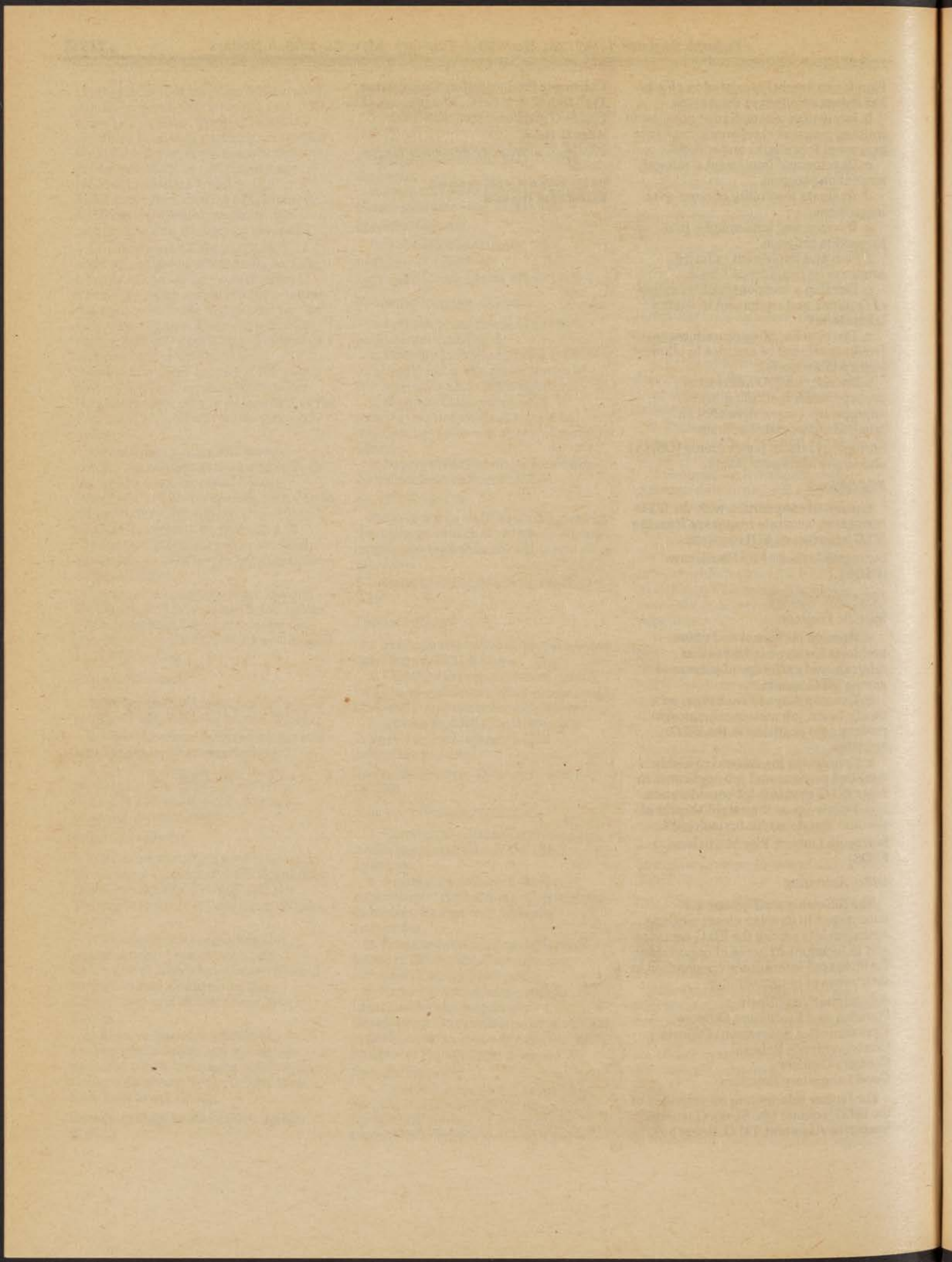
Consumer Product Safety Commission,
1111 18th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.
20207—Telephone: (202) 634-4350.

Allan H. Heim,

Chairman, Interagency Regulatory Liaison
Group.

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BILLING CODE 4110-03-M



Tuesday
May 22, 1979

Forest Paper

Part III

Environmental Protection Agency

**Kraft Pulp Mills: Sulphur Emissions Final
Guideline Document; Notice of
Availability**

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL 1084-8]

Kraft Pulp Mills; Final Guideline Document; Availability

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of Availability of Final Guideline Document.

SUMMARY: This action announces the availability of a final guideline document for the control of total reduced sulfur (TRS) emissions from existing kraft pulp mills. Standards of performance have been issued for TRS emissions, a designated pollutant, from new, modified, and reconstructed kraft pulp mills. The Clean Air Act requires States to control emissions of designated pollutants from existing sources, and this notice initiates the States' actions and provides them with guidelines for developing emission standards.

DATES: State plans providing for the control of TRS emissions from existing mills are due for submission to the Administrator on or before February 22, 1980. The Administrator has 4 months from the date required for submission of the plans, or until June 23, 1980, to take action to approve or disapprove the plan or portions of it.

ADDRESSES: The final guideline document (specify "Kraft Pulp—Control of TRS Emissions from Existing Mills," EPA-450/2-78-003b) may be obtained from the U.S. EPA Library (MD-35), Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27711.

Copies of all comment letters received from interested persons participating in this rulemaking are available for public inspection and copying during normal business hours at EPA's Public Information Reference Unit (EPA Library), Room 2922, 401 M Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. A summary of the comments and EPA's responses may be obtained at the same address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Don R. Goodwin, Emission Standards and Engineering Division, Environmental Protection Agency, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27711; telephone: 919-541-5271.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On February 23, 1978 (43 FR 7597), EPA announced the availability of a draft guideline document for the control of TRS emissions from existing kraft pulp mills, and invited public comment on the contents of the document. A discussion

of the background and the comments received follows:

Section 111(d) of the Clean Air Act requires that "designated" pollutants controlled under standards of performance for new stationary sources [section 111(b)] also be controlled at existing facilities in the same source category. New source performance standards for sources of TRS emissions from kraft pulp mills were promulgated February 23, 1978 (43 FR 7568). TRS is considered a designated pollutant and therefore must also be controlled under section 111(d).

Background

On November 17, 1975 (40 FR 53340), EPA promulgated a new Subpart B to 40 CFR Part 60 establishing procedures and requirements for submittal of State plans for control of designated pollutants from designated facilities under section 111(d). A summary of Subpart B and a discussion of the basic concepts underlying it appear in the preamble published in connection with its promulgation. In brief, Subpart B provides that after a standard of performance applicable to emissions of a designated pollutant from new sources is promulgated, the Administrator will publish a draft guideline document containing information pertinent to the control of the same pollutant from designated (i.e., existing) facilities. He will also publish a notice of availability of the draft guideline document, and invite comments on its contents. After publication of a final guideline document for the pollutant in question, the States will have nine months to develop and submit plans for control of that pollutant from designated facilities. Within four months after the date for submission of plans, the Administrator will approve or disapprove each plan (or portion thereof). If a State does not submit an approvable plan or revision to a disapproved plan, the Administrator will promulgate a plan (or portion thereof) within six months after the date required for submission of the plan or plan revision. These and related provisions of Subpart B are basically patterned after section 110 of the Act and 40 CFR Part 51 (concerning adoption and submittal of State implementation plans under section 110).

Comments and Responses

Sixteen comment letters were received in response to the notice of availability of the draft guideline document: eleven from industry, three from State agencies, and two from other governmental agencies. As a result of these comments, certain changes have

been made and clarifications added to the document. These revisions and the more significant issues raised by the commenters are discussed below:

1. Modifications to the guideline document. The only significant change made to the draft guideline document is the adoption of a twelve-hour averaging period instead of the four-hour averaging period previously used to establish the emission limits. EPA test runs performed when gathering information were four-hour runs and, initially, the proposed new source performance standards for kraft pulp mills were also set on a four-hour averaging basis. However, the performance test required under 40 CFR 60.8 to determine compliance by new facilities consists of an average of three consecutive runs (i.e., averaging emissions over twelve consecutive hours). Therefore it appeared reasonable to require a twelve-hour averaging period in the promulgated new source performance standards, and for the same reason the averaging period in the guideline document has been revised and the corresponding excess emission allowances have been recalculated.

The main clarifications concern the concept of excess emissions and the basis for the distinction between straight recovery furnace systems designed for low TRS emissions and other straight recovery furnace systems. A clear distinction is made between excess emissions due to start-ups, shutdowns, and malfunctions, and other excess emissions which are unavoidable or beyond the control of an owner or operator and cannot be attributed to improper operation and maintenance, and which could be taken into account by adding an excess emissions allowance to the TRS emission levels. It is also reaffirmed that the definition of "new-design recovery furnace" rests upon engineering design features and contractual guarantees and that no specific cut-off date should be used to distinguish between "old-design recovery furnaces" and "new-design recovery furnaces."

2. Significant issues.

(a) Welfare-Related Pollutant. In announcing the availability of the draft guideline document, the Administrator also announced his determination that atmospheric TRS emissions from kraft pulp mills are welfare-related. One commenter presented information (a NIOSH report on occupational exposure to hydrogen sulfide) which, he felt, might warrant reconsideration of that determination. This information was included in a reevaluation of the effects

of TRS by EPA's Health Effects Research Laboratory (HERL). EPA, in this reevaluation, has concluded that TRS is welfare rather than health-related because even the highest concentrations predicted to occur in the vicinity of a kraft pulp mill are well below the minimum level at which the first health effect (eye irritation) appears.

(b) Emission Guidelines. Seven commenters stated that they consider the emission guidelines too stringent for the recovery furnace systems (three commenters), the lime kilns (six commenters) or the smelt dissolving tank (two commenters); their concern was either that it would not be feasible to control TRS emissions to the level recommended by the guidelines, or that the costs associated with retrofitting the necessary control equipment would outweigh the benefits derived from the reduction in TRS emissions.

The emission guidelines recommended in the document reflect the Administrator's judgment on the degree of control attainable with the best system of emission reduction (considering the cost of installing such systems in existing facilities) that has been adequately demonstrated for existing kraft pulp mills. EPA evaluated the costs for existing facilities to comply with the guidelines and determined that those costs were reasonable. The commenters did not provide any data or information which would support changing those determinations.

Two commenters suggested that EPA recommend a control technology instead of an emission level to limit TRS emissions from smelt-dissolving tanks. The recommendation of a specific control technology, however, would preclude use of alternative technologies. The present approach is more flexible since it provides a recommended emission level and describes the control systems which meet this level, but leaves open the choice of how the standard is met. Therefore, the present approach will be attained.

Four commenters disputed the time periods given in the document for retrofitting existing facilities. The document cited approximate times, based on actual retrofit experience. Since the commenters did not provide any information showing that these values were not representative, the time periods have not been revised.

(c) Implementation of the guidelines. Three commenters suggested that the guidelines allow States to develop TRS limitations for the total mill, or for a group of facilities, instead of limitations for each facility. This comment raises

many of the same issues addressed in EPA's proposed policy statement on the use of alternative emission reduction options (bubble concept) under the State Implementation Plans (44 FR 3740, January 18, 1979). It would be premature to resolve these issues under section 111(d) before the final policy on the bubble concept is published. Therefore, the guideline document for kraft pulp mills is written in terms of standards of performance for each designated facility. EPA's final policy statement on the bubble concept will address the use of this concept under section 111(d).

EMISSION GUIDELINES: The emission guidelines and compliance times contained in the final guideline document reflect the Administrator's judgment on the degree of control attainable with application of the best system of continuous emission reduction (considering the cost, nonair quality health, environmental impacts, and energy requirements of such reduction) that has been adequately demonstrated for existing facilities at kraft pulp mills, including the time within which these systems can be purchased and installed. The emission guidelines presented in the final document for control of TRS emissions from existing facilities at kraft pulp mills are 5 parts per million (ppm) of TRS from digester systems, 5 ppm of TRS from multiple-effect evaporator systems, 5 ppm of TRS from straight recovery furnace systems designed for low TRS emissions (the basis for this design is defined in the guideline document), 20 ppm of TRS from all other straight kraft recovery furnace systems, 25 ppm of TRS from cross-recovery furnace systems, 20 ppm of TRS from lime kiln systems, and 5 ppm of TRS from condensate stripper systems. These concentrations are all 12-hour averages. The recommended emission guideline for the smelt dissolving tank is 0.084 gram of TRS per kilogram of black liquor solids (dry weight).

The amount of time necessary to retrofit an existing kraft mill can vary widely depending upon such factors as space limitations, weather conditions, lack of available utilities, delays in equipment delivery, and time required to develop engineering data. Subject to these considerations, the approximate times necessary to retrofit existing facilities are 3-6 years for recovery furnaces; 2 years for digesters, multiple-effect evaporators, smelt-dissolving tanks and condensate strippers; and 2-4 years for lime kilns.

AUTHORITY: This notice of final guidelines is issued under the authority of sections 111, 114, and 301(a) of the

Clean Air Act, as amended [42 U.S.C. 7411, 7414, 7601(a)].

Dated: May 11, 1979.

Barbara Blum,

Acting Administrator.

[FR Doc. 79-15994 Filed 5-21-79; 8:45 am]

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